



July 20, 2015

To: Nonprofit Providers & Associations

From: Terry Edelstein, Nonprofit Liaison

Re: **QUICK SUMMARY – 2015 LEGISLATION**  
**CT OPEN TICKET DONATION & FUNDRAISING PROGRAM –DUE 7/31/15**  
**COMMUNITY FIRST CHOICE (CFC) ON-LINE APPLICATION NOW AVAILABLE**

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The Affordable Care Act created an optional State Plan service which will allow eligible individuals to access Personal Attendant Care (PCA) and other services and supports through self-direction. The Community First Choice (CFC) option is available for individuals who are living in the community and need assistance to remain there.

This new program is offered to Medicaid enrollees. The program allows individuals to receive supports and services in their home. These services can include—but are not limited to—help preparing meals and doing household chores, and assistance with activities of daily living.

The on-line application for Community First Choice (CFC) is located at the same web address as the Money Follows the Person application. Both Programs have links for information and applications.

MFP/ CFC site: <http://ctmfp.com>

For additional information: <https://www.ctmfp.com/InformationCFC.aspx>

Please share these links and encourage those who want to apply to use the on-line application. Those who can't use the on-line application can call the MFP line 888-992-8637. They can also call 2-1-1.

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## **CONNECTICUT OPEN TICKET PROGRAM AND FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY**

The Connecticut Open is offering two different opportunities for nonprofit organizations throughout the state: a ticket donation program and a fundraising opportunity. **Responses are due by July 31.**

The Governor's Office is pleased to assist in supporting these generous initiatives of the Connecticut Open. See the attached flyer for more information.

## **QUICK SUMMARY – 2015 LEGISLATION**

This memo provides a quick summary about several items that passed during the regular and June Special Sessions of the Legislature that affect nonprofit organizations.

Your trade associations and funding state agencies will have provided more comprehensive information about the budget and legislation relevant to your specific fields.

If you have questions, feel free to contact me at [terry.edelstein@ct.gov](mailto:terry.edelstein@ct.gov)

	<p><i>Regular Session, Public Act No. 15-244</i></p> <p><b>AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2017, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE, DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX FAIRNESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/ACT/pa/pdf/2015PA-00244-R00HB-07061-PA.pdf">http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/ACT/pa/pdf/2015PA-00244-R00HB-07061-PA.pdf</a></p>
<b>OPM</b>	<b>Private Providers - \$8.5 M FY17</b>

	<p><i>June Special Session, Public Act No. 15-5</i></p> <p><b>AN ACT IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2017, CONCERNING GENERAL GOVERNMENT, EDUCATION, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND BONDS OF THE STATE.</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/ACT/pa/pdf/2015PA-00005-R00SB-01502SS1-PA.pdf">http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/ACT/pa/pdf/2015PA-00005-R00SB-01502SS1-PA.pdf</a></p>
<b>MEDICAID PROVIDER AUDITS</b>	<b>Sec. 400 (Office of Legislative Research (OLR) Summary)</b>

	<p>The bill makes several changes in the DSS Medicaid provider audit process. It...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. modifies the circumstances in which DSS can make findings of over- or under-payment using extrapolation of audited provider claims;</li> <li>2. prohibits DSS from extrapolating an overpayment or attempting to recover an extrapolated overpayment beyond the payment's original dollar amount if the provider presents credible evidence that a DSS error caused the overpayment;</li> <li>3. allows providers aggrieved by an audit finding to request a contested case hearing under the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act (UAPA), instead of a review by a DSS designee as under current law;</li> <li>4. prohibits DSS from recouping a contested provider overpayment based on extrapolation until a final decision is issued after the hearing;</li> <li>5. requires DSS to give providers (a) that are going to be audited written notification of the statistically valid sampling and extrapolation methodology (SVSEM) the auditors will use and (b) additional information at the start of the audit;</li> <li>6. eliminates a requirement that DSS adopt regulations pertaining to its provider audit practices; and</li> <li>7. requires DSS, by January 1, 2016, to establish audit protocols for homemaker companion services. The law already requires DSS to adopt such protocols for various other providers and services.</li> </ol> <p>The bill also makes technical and conforming changes.</p> <p>EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015</p>
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT TAX CREDIT CAP INCREASE</b>	<p><b>(OLR Summary)</b></p> <p><b>Sec. 446</b> This bill raises, from \$5 million to \$10 million, the annual cap on Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) tax credits, which are available to businesses that contribute to or invest in municipally approved community projects and programs. The Department of Revenue Services, which administers the credits, must continue to award, as the law requires, \$3 million in NAA credits to businesses contributing funds specifically for energy conservation projects, job training programs, and programs benefiting low-income people. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2017</p>
<b>LOW WAGE EMPLOYER ADVISORY BOARD</b>	<p><b>Sec. 485. (NEW) (Effective from passage)</b> (a) There is established the Connecticut Low Wage Employer Advisory Board. Such board shall advise the Labor Commissioner, the Departments of Social Services and Developmental Services and the Office of Early Childhood on matters related to: (1) The causes and effects of businesses paying low wages to residents of the state, (2) public assistance usage among working residents of the state, (3) minimum wage rates necessary to ensure working residents of the state may achieve an economically stable standard of living, (4) improvement of the quality of public assistance programs affecting such residents, (5) wages and working conditions for the workforce delivering services to low-wage working families, and (6) reliance of businesses on state-funded public assistance programs.</p>
<b>PROGRAM INVENTORY OF JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS</b>	<p><b>Sections 486 - 489 (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2015)</b> (a) Not later than January 1, 2016, and not later than October first in every even-numbered year thereafter, the Departments of Correction, Children and Families and Mental Health and Addiction Services, and the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch shall compile a program inventory of each of said agency's criminal and juvenile justice programs and shall categorize them as evidence-based, research-based, promising or lacking any evidence.</p>

**DID NOT PASS (regular session)**

HB 6763 (dead)	<b>AN ACT CONCERNING SOCIAL INNOVATION.</b> <a href="http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/FC/pdf/2015HB-06763-R000319-FC.pdf">http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/FC/pdf/2015HB-06763-R000319-FC.pdf</a>
	<p>OLR Summary <a href="http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/BA/2015HB-06763-R000319-BA.htm">http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/BA/2015HB-06763-R000319-BA.htm</a></p> <p>This bill expands the state's authority to enter into an outcome-based performance contract with a social innovation investment enterprise (i.e., enterprise), which is an entity created to coordinate the delivery of preventive social programs by nonprofit service providers. Enterprises can (1) create a social investment vehicle (product) to raise private investment capital, (2) enter into outcome-based performance contracts, and (3) contract with service providers.</p>

<i>June Special Session, Public Act No. 15-1</i>				
<b>AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER PURPOSES.</b> <a href="http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/ACT/PA/2015PA-00001-R00SB-01501SS1-PA.htm">http://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/ACT/PA/2015PA-00001-R00SB-01501SS1-PA.htm</a> (OLR analysis)			<b>FY16</b>	<b>FY17</b>
<b>GRANTS</b>				
13(a), 32(a), 55, 223-224	OPM	<p>Nonprofit Grant Program</p> <p>Grants to private, nonprofit, tax-exempt health and human service organizations for alterations, renovations, improvements, additions, and new construction, including (1) health, safety, ADA compliance, and energy conservation improvements; (2) information technology systems; (3) technology for independence; (4) vehicle purchases; and (5) property acquisition</p>	10,000,000	10,000,000
13(e), 32(f)	Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD)	<p>Connecticut Manufacturing Innovation Fund; earmarks \$3.5 million in FY 16 for a grant to the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology for research and development of high rate laser-engineered additive manufacturing machining</p> <p>Small Business Express program</p> <p>Brownfield Remediation and Redevelopment program</p> <p>Implementation of a minority business enterprise assistance program to assist such businesses in obtaining surety bonds for capital construction projects, including bid, performance, and payment bonds. Program may be run by contracted nonprofit entity</p> <p>Grants to nonprofit organizations sponsoring cultural and historic sites</p>	<p>20,000,000</p> <p>50,000,000</p> <p>20,000,000</p> <p>2,000,000</p> <p>0</p>	<p>20,000,000</p> <p>50,000,000</p> <p>20,000,000</p> <p>0</p> <p>5,000,000</p>
32(i)	Department of Development Services	Grants to private nonprofit organizations for supportive housing	0	20,000,000
65	DEEP	<p>Bikeway, pedestrian walkway, and greenway grants (see below)</p> <p>§ 65 &amp; 238 — Connecticut Bikeway, Walkway, and Greenway Grant Program</p>	5,000,000	5,000,000

<p>The bill (1) authorizes \$5 million in GO bonds in FY 16 and FY 17 for an existing municipal grant program for establishing bikeways, pedestrian walkways, and greenways and (2) expands the purposes of the program to allow a wider range of potential projects and grant recipients. It repeals substantially similar provisions in PA 15-190. The bill expands the (1) program to cover recreational trails and (2) eligible grant recipients to include private nonprofit institutions, agencies, districts, and other organizations.</p>
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